

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00801 171337Z

43

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-11 FEA-02 INT-08

DRC-01 /106 W

----- 078274

R 171221Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6194

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 0801

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, FR

SUBJ: FRENCH ATTENDANCE AT WASHINGTON OIL CONSUMERS
MEETING

1. WHEN PASSING BACK THROUGH JIDDA AFTER PARTICIPATING
IN MEETING BETWEEN MIN DEF SULTAN AND NORTHROP CHAIRMAN
OF THE BOARD TOM JONES, NORTHROP'S TOM BARGER REPORTED
FOLLOWING STORY RELATED BY SULTAN:

2. WHEN FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT MET WITH KING
FAISAL ON JANUARY 26, HE INFORMED FAISAL THAT FRANCE
WOULD NOT BE ATTENDING WASHINGTON MEETING OF OIL CONSU-
MING NATIONS ON FEBRUARY 11. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT JOBERT
THOUGHT THAT THIS ATTITUDE, WHICH WAS EXPLAINED AS A
DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH THE PRODUCING STATES,
WOULD PLEASE SAG. TO JOBERT'S CHAGRIN, FAISAL TOLD HIM
THAT HE MUST REALIZE THAT SAUDI ARABIA'S GOOD RELATIONS
WITH FRANCE DEPEND IN PART ON GOOD FRENCH RELATIONS WITH
THE UNITED STATES. BEFORE JOBERT'S DEPARTURE THE KING GAVE
HIM A LETTER TO PRESIDENT POMPIDOU ADVISING HIM THAT IN
THE KING'S VIEWS, FRANCE OUGHT TO ATTEND THE WASHINGTON
MEETING. IF TRUE (AND IN VIEW OF RANCE'S TARDY RESPONSE
TO INVITATION WE TEND TO BELIEVE IT), STORY PROVIDES INTER-
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ESTING VIEW OF KING'S ATTITUDE TOWARD RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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